



The State of New Hampshire  
*Department of Environmental Services*



Michael P. Nolin  
Commissioner

February 2004

Ralph Porter  
161 Union Square  
Milford, NH 03055

**NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and  
PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 04-029**

RE MILFORD, RALPHS GLOBAL, EXISTING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FACILITY  
(UST #A-0113489) (DES #199607061)

Dear Mr. Porter:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services ("DES") is hereby notifying you that the above-referenced facility, located at 161 Union Square, Milford, NH is not in compliance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Wm 1401, regulating Underground Storage Facilities. On April 21, 2003 a DES inspector conducted a compliance audit at the facility. A written document, describing the deficiencies was provided to the facility representative. This document required the facility be returned to compliance within 45 days, and DES be notified of the corrective measures taken. Compliance has not been achieved. **Failure to achieve compliance with the following deficiencies within 90 days from the date of this Notice of Non-Compliance and Permit Revocation ("Notice") will result in revocation of your Permit-to-Operate on May 11, 2004. This letter contains important compliance and procedural information. Please read it carefully.**

Env-Wm 1401.26 Leak Monitoring for New Tanks and Env-Wm 1401.31 Operation of Leak Monitoring Equipment

Env-Wm 1401.26 and/or Env-Wm 1401.31 require that a leak monitor for double-wall tank systems continuously operate. The leak monitoring equipment and devices shall be tested annually for proper operation in accordance with manufacturer's requirements. DES has determined that the leak monitor sensors for the three gasoline USTs were not functioning and two of the tank systems have not temporarily closed. Leak monitor sensor replacement or maintenance results or indication that the systems have been temporarily closed shall be provided to DES.

2. Env-Wm 1401.30 Release Detection for Piping

Env-Wm 1401.30 requires all pressurized piping without secondary containment and leak monitoring to be monitored for releases using groundwater monitoring, soil vapor monitoring, or an annual line tightness test. Release detection results for all of the piping systems at both USTs shall be provided to DES.

Env-Wm 401.33 Corrosion Protection for Piping

Env-Wm 1401.33 requires corrosion protection be installed on regulated piping prior to December 22, 1998. DES observed steel piping coming from the fuel oil UST in contact with concrete/soil. The steel piping must be isolated from the concrete/soil, corrosion protection plans and specifications for the piping must be submitted to DES or closure the piping.

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 04-029  
February 11, 2004  
Page 2 of 4

In addition, Env-Wm 1401.10(a) requires owners of underground storage facilities for oil to maintain financial responsibility for costs associated with cleanup of releases from systems, the implementation of corrective measures, and compensation for third party damages in the amount equal to or greater than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Env-Wm 1401.10(c) provides that the financial responsibility requirement may be satisfied if the owner is eligible for reimbursement of costs associated with cleanup of releases from the Oil Discharge and Disposal Cleanup Fund ("the Fund"). Eligibility for the Fund is contingent upon achieving and maintaining compliance with statutory (RSA 146-C) and regulatory (Env-Wm 1401) requirement. This facility has not achieved compliance, consequently, the Fund is not available to you as a financial responsibility mechanism.

In accordance with RSA 146-C:4 and Env-Wm 1401.07(a), no person shall own or operate an underground storage facility without a permit issued by DES. Within 30 days from the date of the permit revocation the facility shall be closed in accordance with Env-Wm 1401.18 for permanent closure.

Based on the compliance deficiencies described above, DES believes this facility poses a potential substantial threat to the surface and groundwater of the state. Therefore, in accordance with RSA 146-C:4 and Env-Wm 1401.09, if compliance as requested above is not achieved within ninety (90) days of the date of this Notice your Permit-to-Operate (UST Permit #0113489) shall be revoked effective **May 11, 2004**. Within thirty (30) days of the date of permit revocation all regulated substances must be removed from the UST systems at this facility. If the facility achieves compliance during the ninety (90) day period, it is necessary that documentation be submitted to DES verifying that compliance has been attained.

You have the right to a hearing to contest these allegations before the proposed license action is taken. The hearing would be a formal adjudicative proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:31, at which you and any witnesses you may call would have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence as to why the proposed action should not be taken. All testimony at the hearing would be under oath and would be subject to cross-examination. If you wish to have a hearing, one will be scheduled promptly.

RSA 541-A:31 III(e) provides that you have the right to have an attorney present to represent yourself at your own expense. If the Permit is an occupational license, under RSA 541-A:31, III(f) you have the right to request DES to provide a certified shorthand court reporter at your own expense. **Such request must be submitted in writing at least 10 days prior to the proceeding.**

You may waive your right to a hearing. If you waive the hearing, DES is prepared to proceed with the actions as stated above. You should notify DES of your decision by filling out and returning the enclosed form.

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE and PERMIT REVOCATION – NCPR # 04-029  
February 11, 2004  
Page 3 of 4

If there are any questions concerning the above, I may be contacted at the Waste Management Division at (603) 271-1165.

Sincerely,

 **COPY**

Lynn A. Woodard, P.E.

Supervisor

Oil Compliance and Initial Response Section

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7000 1670 0000 0584 5858

cc: Michael P. Nolin, Commissioner  
Mark Harbaugh, DES Legal Unit  
Fred McGarry, P.E., Chief Engineer, WMD  
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Tom Beaulieu, WMD  
Health Officer, Town of Milford